

Approved For Release 2006/11/27 : CIA-RDP86B00985R000300090008-2  
MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

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Saw

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As promised, here's what I  
produced for Bonnie. [REDACTED]  
saw and okayed it for delivery.  
Regards —

[REDACTED]

Date 23 April

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UNCLASSIFIED

STATINTL

23 April 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: [ ] NFAC/PME Staff

FROM : [ ] EO/NIC

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SUBJECT : NIC Comments on [ ] Memo

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1. Our general reaction to [ ] memo to Admiral Inman on CIA links with the academic world is quite positive. As he himself recognizes explicitly in the text, he is suggesting no radical departures from existing Agency policy or practice regarding utilization of college and university resources. Most of his specific recommendations track closely with elements of our ongoing academic relations program, as I am certain you learned from talking with [ ], the Coordinator for Academic Relations. STATINTL

2. The NIC, through the office of the Coordinator for Academic Relations (which administratively is part of the NIC), already is involved in activities corresponding to all but the first of the five specific "courses of action" recommended by [ ] on page 5 of his memo; the first--awarding R&D contracts to academic entities--is an activity that various NFAC and DDS&T offices continue to pursue as vigorously as financial constraints permit. Most offices involved in intelligence production or processing do, of course, constantly use academic consultants and recruit staff from reputable colleges, universities, and think tanks. STAT

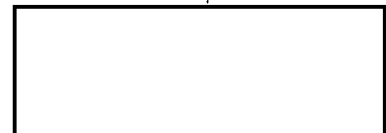
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3. Regarding [ ] comments on page 3 on the Agency's perennial problems with "consensus" products, we do recognize the problem and are attacking it in a variety of ways, specifically including using outside experts as a check as [ ] suggests. We regularly seek the views of respected outside experts on most of the more important interagency assessments we produce. The NIC employs a large number- [ ] of regular consultants, most of whom are prominent academics, expressly for this purpose. Other academic experts are frequently consulted on an ad-hoc basis to get the benefit of their thinking at the outset of specific estimative projects or to review drafts or finished products. Moreover, each of the NIC's six National Intelligence Officers with a regional specialization are required to sponsor two seminars or colloquia each year, drawing to the extent possible on the participation of recognized academic authorities on the subject matter at hand. Finally, the NIC is attempting with some success to enlist the direct participation of academic experts as staff officers, serving with the NIC on two- or three-year assignments as NIOs, Assistant NIOs, or estimates drafting officers. At the moment, three of our NIOs and four of our 13 estimates officers now on board have been drawn from the academic world; additional academics are being actively considered for NIC vacancies.

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cc: C/NIC  
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